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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

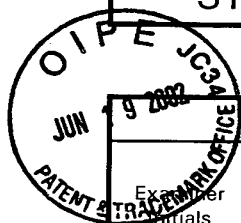
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GROUP

2834



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Foreign Patent Document		Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			Yes	no
PC	0 870 573	A1	EPO	10-14-1998		
PC	10-58187		Japan	03-03-1998	Abst	
PC	10-6079		Japan	01-13-1998	Abst	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		
	<div style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; transform: rotate(-15deg);"> RECEIVED AUG 21 2002 TC 1700 </div>		
Examiner Signature	M. Alexandra Elve	Date Considered	3/30/03

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.